

"Ask The Consul" Web Chat

<https://statedeptasia.connectsolutions.com/manila/>

U.S. Embassy Manila

<START OF CHAT Feb 23, 2011 4:15pm>

Answered Questions (75)

1. Odette Francisco: im planning to apply for tourist visa but im not sure if i really was petitioned by my mom before so dont know what to answer in d question there

*** US Embassy 1:** Answer the questions on the DS-160 as honestly as you can, and if you simply don't know the answer be prepared to discuss it with the officer during your interview.

2. Sonny English: What are considered 'compelling reasons?'

*** US Embassy 1:** Compelling reasons, or "ties" are unique to each person's situation. As each person's situation is different, there is no set answer as to what constitutes compelling reasons or ties. This proof may come in many forms, but when considered together, it must be strong enough for the interviewing officer to conclude that one's ties to the Philippines will bring him/her back at the end of a temporary stay in the United States.

3. kaye 2: in the imigrant visa application, what if the principal applicant had a problem base from his medical exam, what happened to his companions ?

*** US Embassy 1:** Check our Facebook page regularly for an announcement about a future webchat on immigrant visas!

4. arbues almodiel 2: I have an expire H2b visa already & I want to ask if there's a chance for me to have an H1b Visa because I have an employer that promised me to sponsor my H1b visa. please let me know so I can pursue my applications..thank you.

*** US Embassy 1:** Yes, you can apply for an H1B visa even though you have already held an H2B visa. Just follow the requirements for applying for an H1B visa.

5. Sam: i have a visa interview this friday for j1 visa. i have all my dosuments ready including the ds 2019 that was sent by the sponsor. although i come from a good school here, I still have classmates who were denied of a j1 visa. what are my chances in getting approved for a visa?

*** US Embassy 1:** Every case is unique, and we cannot comment on individual chances for approval. Just be entirely honest during your interview. Good luck!

6. virginia martinez: this is very enlightening hope you do this more often... God bless...

*** (Private response removed from transcript)**

7. Sonny English: I am a U.S. disabled veteran who lives here in the Philippines, who's planning a trip home ...to Maui, Hawaii; and ...my 'caretaker/employee,' (3-years), whom I need to accompany me, applied for her non-immigrant visa, and ...went to her interview last-month. She was denied because they told her they were not convinced she would return. She has no family in the U.S. Her second interview is during the first week of March. What should she make sure she brings with her? How do we convince them that she will be returning with her employer?

*** US Embassy 1:** You are welcome to bring whatever supporting documentation you would like to your visa interview. The U.S. visa process, however, is not primarily document-based. The interviewing officer will ask you questions during your interview, and you must demonstrate that you have strong ties to the Philippines (or your country of residence). The visa officer is looking to see that the applicant has compelling reasons to return to the Philippines.

8. Ma. Eliza S. Guerrero: sir/maam, my son who is 18 years old and a 2nd year college at de lasalle university taking uo biomedical engineering. he wanted to travel to US this summer vacation and spend sometime with our relatives. also, he wanted to check the universities there because of his plan of having a master's degree there after his graduation here. my question is..what are the possibilities of him getting approved of tourist visa since we have an existing petition for US immigrant. Thank you

*** US Embassy 1:** Having an immigrant petition on file is not grounds for an automatic refusal, but as an applicant, you will need to provide strong evidence that you intend to leave the United States after your planned visit.

9. maven: Is it ok to travel as tourist to the US, then go to Canada (on tourist visa also) then fly back straight to the Philippines without passing through the US?

*** US Embassy 2:** Yes, that is perfectly acceptable if you have the necessary U.S. and Canadian visas.

10. langes: If I had a previous social security number but lost it, will I not mention it in the application form anymore?

*** US Embassy 2:** You should always be completely honest on your online application and at the interview. If we see that you have a social security number but you did not mention it, then your credibility is in question. In certain cases, this kind of omission could lead to a permanent visa denial.

11. lei: what are the requirements for visa renewal?

*** US Embassy 2:** Visas are not renewed. Each application is considered on its own merits. Each time you apply, you only need to meet the necessary requirements. However, a good history of visa use is a positive factor when applying for a visa but it is not a guarantee that a visa will be issued.

12. suzette: Though my two questions were not answered, still would like to thank your good office for taking time to our concerns. God Speed.

*** US Embassy 2:** Maraming salamat po for your kind words. We hope the chat was helpful.

13. Rosanna Javier: do i need to submit new application even i was denied?

*** US Embassy 2:** If your visa was denied 214b, then you will need to submit a new application. If you were denied 221g, then you have 1 year to provide the additional information and documentation the Consul requested at the interview without a new application. If you are unsure of the status of your case, email us at consmanilaniv@state.gov.

14. rhoda: i was still single when i got my tourist visa. i am about to renew my passport. would my old us visa be still good even if i change my family name?

*** US Embassy 2:** Female holders of valid visas on passports reflecting their maiden name may present to the U.S. immigration officer at the Port of Entry a legal document, such as

marriage certificate printed on the Philippine National Statistics Office security paper, attesting to the change of the surname. Should you wish to have a valid visa "transferred" to your new name and in a new passport, you must apply for a new visa.

15. Jec: I have a US visa that will expire on July 17, 2011. If i travel to the US in June and stay until end of July, is that acceptable?

*** US Embassy 2:** A visa is valid up until its expiration date. Until that time, a visa holder can appear at a U.S. point of entry and request entry to the U.S. The decision to grant entry, and for how long, will be made by Customs and Border Patrol Officers. It is important that you do not overstay the length of time given to you by the CBP officers.

16. PaoloV: what are the steps in applying for tourist visa?

*** US Embassy 2:** Instructions and explanation for the visa application process can be found here: <http://manila.usembassy.gov/www/niv1.html>

17. Generiel: our immigrant petition paper arrived December 2010, but the petitioner died september 2007. It indicates there that we can process our papers. Is that petition still valid and are there any extra steps we need to comply?

*** US Embassy 1:** This discussion is focused on non-immigrant visas. We will have a future webchat on immigrant visas at a later date. Stay tuned. In the meantime, feel free to call the Embassy at 301-2000 and ask to be connected with the immigrant visa section -- they should be able to answer your question.

18. dr jay 2: if i am marry and disable and poor do i have same right?

*** US Embassy 1:** Anyone can apply for a visa and there is no income requirement to establish eligibility.

19. viki: my daughter is minor 15 years old his fater had a turist visa can she be attatched on his visa?thank you

*** US Embassy 1:** There is no way to "attach" to a parent's visa. Each person must qualify for their own visa.

20. winnie: good afternoon..how long it will takes for the processing of a tourist visa??

*** US Embassy 1:** Passports for approved applicants are generally returned to the applicant via courier within 7 business days. A few rare cases may take longer.

21. Marie Berris: Marie Berris (Submitted question): (15:44) my mother lost her expired passport with a still valid US visa on it... what shall i do? How should i report it to you? how do we go about securing another visa for her? would she be granted another visa?

*** US Embassy 1:** She should apply for a new visa by following the procedure listed on our website, <http://manila.usembassy.gov/www/h3024.html>

22. shelle18: my mother is a retired government employee. can she apply for a tourist visa?

*** US Embassy 1:** Yes! Any Filipino citizen is eligible to apply for a B1/B2 visa.

23. Odette Francisco: is it possible to renew a US visa if u once over stayed in the US?even if that was more than 10yrs ago?

*** US Embassy 2:** It is possible. You will need to have strong ties to convince the officer that your prior illegal presence in the United States will not be repeated.

24. lei: is it possible to renew visa abroad other than here in philis?

*** US Embassy 2:** You can apply for a visa at any U.S. consulate or embassy in the world.

25. bea 2: This about the case of my uncle, he was petitioned by my aunt way back 1985 now that his petition is current but my aunt who's petitioner was dead. Does this mean that my uncle petition is no longer valid?

*** US Embassy 2:** Unfortunately, if the petitioner is deceased then the petition is no longer valid.

26. vida: How do we establish that our intention to visit the US is temporary? Do you have any specific details that you need to see in the application form? Because as per my experience, the consular officer who interviewed me didn't ask for anything like documents to support my claim. He based all his decision, I presumed solely on the application form.

*** US Embassy 1:** For business and tourist visas (B-1/B-2), each applicant must qualify under section 214(b) of the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), which states: "Every alien shall be presumed to be an immigrant until he establishes to the satisfaction of the officer, at the time of the application for a visa . . . that he is entitled to nonimmigrant status . . ." Essentially, the visa officer is looking to see that the applicant has compelling reasons to return to the Philippines. Under U.S. immigration law, the burden of proof is on the applicant to show that he or she qualifies for the visa. This proof may come in many forms, but when considered together, it must be strong enough for the interviewing officer to conclude that one's ties to the Philippines will bring him/her back at the end of a temporary stay in the United States.

27. RonnelOrtiz: how much will i pay for the tourist visa? where to pay?

*** US Embassy 1:** The current fee for B1/B2 visas is \$140. All of the information about how and where to pay is included on our website: <http://manila.usembassy.gov/www3024.html>

28. Odette Francisco: can my husband still apply renew his tourist visa though he had overstayed in d US once but that was more than 10yrs ago

*** US Embassy 1:** Yes! He can always apply for a new visa. He should be entirely honest on his application and during his interview. A prior overstay is not generally an ineligibility to receiving a future visa.

29. macky: Our family plans to spend Christmas in the US on December 2011. I was thinking of renewing my daughter's visa this summer (while there's no school) but her visa expires on August 2011. Is it possible to renew the visa even before it expires?

*** US Embassy 2:** You can renew a visa at any time. Your old visa will be canceled before a new visa can be issued.

30. shelle18: how can i apply for a working visa?

*** US Embassy 2:** Working visas require that the applicant be petitioned by an employer inside the United States. If you find a job and the employer wants to hire you, they can contact the Department of Homeland Security to begin a working petition.

31. egay: if my application for tourist visa is approved how soon should i enter the US?

*** US Embassy 2:** You may show up at a Point of Entry of the United States at any time while your visa is still valid. The decision to admit you to the United States, and for how long, will be made by the Customs and Border Patrol officers.

32. RonnelOrtiz: GOOD DAY, I'M RONNEL G. ORTIZ FROM DAVAO. HOW LONG WILL IT TAKES TO GET A TOURIST VISA? I JUST WANT TO VISIT AMERICA, BUT I WANT TO KNOW IF COULD I GET THE VISA RIGHT THEN AFTER MY INTERVIEW?

* **US Embassy 2:** Visa processing takes approximately 7 days after the interview is completed. If you are granted a visa, your passport with the new visa will be mailed to you via our new courier, 2Go.

33. ann: cant read...too small

* (Private response removed from transcript)

34. marz: i'm a government employee, i wish to apply for a tourist visa, what are the requirements needed?

* **US Embassy 2:** A government employee is subject to the same visa requirements as all other applicants if the purpose of the trip is for personal business or pleasure. If you are traveling on government business on behalf of the national government, you may qualify for a different visa category. Information on government visas can be found here: <http://manila.usembassy.gov/www/niv6.html>

35. Red: hello

* (Private response removed from transcript)

36. shyren: is there a limit of days or years to stay in the foreign country?

* **US Embassy 2:** Visa requirements of foreign governments upon U.S. citizens can be found at <http://www.travel.state.gov>.

37. leah centillas: i'm from digos city and would like to apply for a tourist visa . where can we get an application form?

* **US Embassy 2:** All applications are done online. Please go to this website for more information and instruction application process: <http://manila.usembassy.gov/www/niv1.html>

38. ann: good afternoon sir/madam, i would like to inquire how to retrieve my passport after being denied last december 2010?

* **US Embassy 1:** Please contact the Non-Immigrant visa section at consmanilaniv@state.gov

39. homie alonzo: what is the meaning of cancelled without prejudice?

* **US Embassy 1:** It simply means that an old visa was cancelled without prejudice. It is not derogatory and is very common.

40. leah centillas: i'm from mindanao, i would like to ask how & where we could get an application for a tourist visa

* **US Embassy 1:** All of the information about non-immigrant visa applications, including the forms, is available at <http://manila.usembassy.gov/www/h3024.html>

41. RonnelOrtiz: Mr. Jay Harvey Balo Immigration Consultant in Global Visas, call me last few day regarding my visa application in US. would it help me process easily and faster?

* **US Embassy 1:** The application form should be completed by you. Completing it should require no special assistance, and we recommend strongly that you fill it out yourself. If you cannot complete the form yourself, you are allowed to have someone help you fill it out,

but you must indicate on the form who assisted you. You must review and electronically sign the application form before submitting it.

42. kinoy: Mr. Jay Harvey Balo Immigration Consultant in Global Visas, call me last few day regarding my visa application in US. would it help me process easily and faster?

*** US Embassy 1:** The application form should be completed by you. Completing it should require no special assistance, and we recommend strongly that you fill it out yourself. If you cannot complete the form yourself, you are allowed to have someone help you fill it out, but you must indicate on the form who assisted you. You must review and electronically sign the application form before submitting it.

43. Francis Acero: Just to repeat my questions yesterday: 1. Is there any way to appeal a decision of the consul denying an application for non-immigrant visa, when the denial is founded on a lack of evidence to establish that the applicant has not presented enough evidence to support his expressed intent not to stay in the United States; and 2. Suppose that person, at the time of the denial was a college student, who now has completed trade school and is now working on his own. His family intends to give him a vacation in Los Angeles as a graduation gift, which includes a planned taxi franchise. What should he bring to establish his intent to go to the USA as a tourist?

*** US Embassy 2:** 1) A finding of ineligibility under Section 214(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act cannot be appealed, but it is not a permanent ineligibility. If you believe you can demonstrate that you qualify for the visa, you may reapply. 2) The applicant should reapply and bring all documents which proves the applicant's family, social and economic ties outside of the United States. The Consul may not require these documents. It is more important that the applicant can answer the Consul's questions honestly and prove his ties.

44. vida: If i am bringing my niece and nephew with me, what documents do I need to attach?

*** US Embassy 2:** Minor children need to be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian to apply for a visa. A birth certificate may be necessary for parents. Legal guardians will be required to show legal documents which prove guardianship of the children.

45. Marie Berris: my mother lost her expired passport with a still valid US visa on it... what shall i do? How should i report it to you? how do we go about securing another visa for her? would she be granted another visa?

*** US Embassy 2:** For a lost visa issued in Manila, send a copy of the police report or affidavit of loss with the visa holder's full name and date of birth to the Embassy's Fraud Prevention Unit. They can be sent to any of the following: Fax number: (02) 301-2005 E-mail: fpmmanila@state.gov Postal Address: Fraud Prevention Unit, American Embassy Manila, Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manila 1001. Upon receipt of the notification, we will electronically cancel the visa. In case the visa is recovered after you report it lost, do not use it. There is no automatic replacement of lost visas. You have to reapply for a new visa.

46. RonnelOrtiz: hi sir/ madam: good day! is global visa will really help me in processing my tourist visa in US?

*** US Embassy 2:** No. The application form should be completed by you. Completing it should require no special assistance, and we recommend strongly that you fill it out yourself. If you cannot complete the form yourself, you are allowed to have someone help you fill it out, but you must indicate on the form who assisted you. . You must review and

electronically sign the application form before submitting it. Visa fixers have no influence with the Consular officers and using their services is a waste of your time and money.

47. Red: I have an existing I visa that is good until September. my 10 year multiple entry B1/B2 already expired last year. I plan to travel to the US in December on a personal trip and I know I shouldn't use my I-Visa for that trip. I intend to apply for a new B1/B2 visa for my personal trip in December. Do I have to go through the same process of apply for a B1/B2 Visa when I still have a valid I-Visa? thanks.

*** US Embassy 2:** If the purpose of your trip is not work related, you will need to apply for a B1/B2 visa. If you attempt to enter the U.S. on an I visa without legitimate reasons for doing so, you may be denied entry by Customs and Border Patrol and your I visa could be canceled.

48. Levi: had receive a congratulatory message thru email from US state dept stating that I am among those randomly selected and registered for further consideration in the diversity immigrant program and was asked to pay \$880. I think this is a scam

*** US Embassy 2:** The Diversity Immigrant visa program is not available to Filipino nationals. If you are a Filipino national and you have received such a notice, then it is most likely a scam.

49. lei: hi gudpm, jst want to ask, if possible to renew visa abroad other than here in philis?

*** US Embassy 1:** Yes! You can apply at most of the U.S. Embassies or Consulates abroad.

50. helen: is there a minimum balance requirement that i must have in my bank account to assure my visa will be granted or is there a requirements that i have a minimum amount of investment in the philippines

*** US Embassy 1:** There is no requirement that you have a minimum bank balancement to establish eligibility for a non-immigrant visa.

51. helen: i there anything that can be included in the application or interview process to more assure that a visa will be granted?

*** US Embassy 1:** Just be honest in the application and interview, and be prepared to explain to the officer the compelling reasons you have to return to the Philippines.

52. helen: I would like to know how long it would take to obtain one and what the approval process is?

*** US Embassy 1:** The entire process is detailed on our website:

<http://manila.usembassy.gov/www3024.html>

53. helen: i would like to get a nonimmigrant tourist visa to go to the USA and would like to know the process and procedures to obtain one. I would also like to know the requirements and costs.

*** US Embassy 1:** All of the procedures for applying for a non-immigrant visa, including the requirements and costs, are explained on our website:

<http://manila.usembassy.gov/www3024.html>

54. vida: I need specifics as to what proof do we need to present to establish social, family, economic ties are sufficient to overcome the presumption of immigrant intent.

*** US Embassy 1:** "Ties" are the aspects of one's life that bind him/her to his/her place of residence, including family relationships, employment and possessions. In the case of

younger applicants, who may not have had an opportunity to establish such ties, interviewing officers may look at educational status, grades, the situation of parents, and an applicant's long-range plans and prospects in the Philippines. As each person's situation is different, there is no set answer as to what constitutes adequate ties.

55. vida: How much money do we need to have on our bank accounts? how much is enough to cover for our tour expenses.

*** US Embassy 1:** There is no requirement minimum amount you must have in the bank to establish eligibility for a tourist visa. The visa officer is looking to see that the applicant has compelling reasons to return to the Philippines.

56. vida: Can I apply for a tourist visa even if I have a pending immigrant petition (EB3)? What are my chances of getting approved/denied?

*** US Embassy 1:** Yes! You can apply for a non-immigrant visa even though you have a pending immigrant petition.

57. vanessa: What are the requirements for the tourist visa? Is it need for you to have a lot of money in the bank? as a show money??

*** US Embassy 2:** For business and tourist visas (B-1/B-2), each applicant must qualify under section 214(b) of the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), which states: "Every alien shall be presumed to be an immigrant until he establishes to the satisfaction of the officer, at the time of the application for a visa . . . that he is entitled to nonimmigrant status . . ." Essentially, the visa officer is looking to see that the applicant has compelling reasons to return to the Philippines. Under U.S. immigration law, the burden of proof is on the applicant to show that he or she qualifies for the visa. This proof may come in many forms, but when considered together, it must be strong enough for the interviewing officer to conclude that one's ties to the Philippines will bring him/her back at the end of a temporary stay in the United States.

58. Toni: Just want to ask if what are the tips and techniques to be have a tourist visa. I have 3 friends in US who always insist me n visiting them but I told them that US Visa approval is really hard. Is there any chance that I can be approved? Is it show money?

*** US Embassy 1:** the visa officer is looking to see that the applicant has compelling reasons to return to the Philippines. Under U.S. immigration law, the burden of proof is on the applicant to show that he or she qualifies for the visa. This proof may come in many forms, but when considered together, it must be strong enough for the interviewing officer to conclude that one's ties to the Philippines will bring him/her back at the end of a temporary stay in the United States. To reiterate our earlier answer, there is NO requirement to have "show money." Visa-fixers and scam artists often prey on applicants and tell them they must have "show money." This is not true.

59. Jorge Aloyon: I'm applying for an H2B visa and still awaiting for my employer this march, I already submitted my online application confirmation no. AA0019TWIB; and I already have H2b visa before; what would be my chances of being approved?

*** US Embassy 1:** Every case is unique and we can't comment on the chances for approval for a specific applicant. Just follow the instructions on the website and be entirely honest during your interview.

60. Tanya R. Paulican: Good day Sir/Maam,... i got my B1B2 Visa in 2009 in Canada since i worked there before. Now im here in the country (Phil) and planning to travel to US

sometime this year for a vacation. Is there a need for me to carry documents aside from my passport or what can you suggest for me to have in hand (aside from passport) for the immigration? I haven't tried going through the US immigration in the airport. This will be my first time to enter US from the Philippines. Thank you.

*** US Embassy 1:** I encourage you to check with Customs and Border Patrol, which is the U.S. agency that works at our borders and grants (or in rare cases, denies) admission to the U.S.

61. guest: If my parents are undocumented migrants in the US, will it affect my own family's tourist visa application?

*** US Embassy 1:** Each case is looked at individually. The fact that you have undocumented family in the U.S. will NOT make you ineligible for a visa. Please just be entirely honest on the application form and during the interview. Being dishonest in the application process is much more likely to lead to a visa denial than having family in the U.S.

62. Joel 2: can I ask about immigrant visas

*** US Embassy 1:** we will have a later webchat about immigrant visas. Stay tuned!

63. fhovae: If I have a C1 visa and I'm in transit to another country, can I stay in the US longer than a day while I wait for my flight?

*** US Embassy 2:** The amount of time you are legally allowed to stay in the U.S. will be determined by U.S. Customs and Border Patrol at the time of entry. It is possible that you will be allowed to stay for a period of time on a C1.

64. Luis Hanz S. Nery Jr.: how much money will I bring during our interview?

*** US Embassy 1:** The visa fee is for a B1/B2 is \$140 and will be paid before the interview. You do not need to bring any money to the interview. Anyone who tells you that you need to bring "show money" to a visa interview is wrong and likely taking advantage of you.

65. rhoda: I got a 10-year multiple entry visa in 2006 but my trip to the US did not push through that year (I haven't used that visa yet). I plan to go to the US within this year. Is my visa still valid or do I need to apply for a new one? Thanks!

*** US Embassy 2:** Your visa is valid through the expiration date. You will need a valid passport however.

66. JOHN L BARRETT: I am an American citizen living in the Philippines 3 years, married to a Filipino lady 2 1/2 years. We have applied twice for a non-immigrant visa and have been declined. My wife has been asked to be a bridesmaid in my only niece's wedding in May because they have developed a great relationship (aunt/niece/friends) while chatting online. I am 63 and my wife is 28 and we are very much in love. We feel that the reason we have been turned down is the age difference. The interviewer should know that age is not "a thing" here. If we wanted to live in the U.S. we would have applied for a fiance visa. We don't. Can you tell us the best way to apply so we can attend the wedding together and have a family reunion?

*** US Embassy 2:** Every applicant must qualify on his/her own merits. To that end, certain spouses of U.S. citizens or Legal Permanent Residents may qualify for a nonimmigrant visa under certain circumstances. However, due to the bonds of marriage and the legal presumption by the interviewing officer that the U.S. citizen or Legal Permanent Resident's spouse will want to permanently reside with the citizen in the United States, spouses of Legal Permanent Residents or U.S. citizens who reside in the United States may find it difficult to qualify for a nonimmigrant visa. If the American spouse is a legal permanent resident of the

Philippines, that helps the Consul see that the applicant's permanent residence is located outside the United States.

67. tom heede: I am a usa citizen and legal philippine resident. My wife has two children, a dependant mother, two dependant cousins, a owner of a pig farm and recently completed 15,000,000 piso home. She has been refused a B1/B2 visitors visa twice with no explanation. I understand that the interviewer is required by US Immigration law to give her the reason for rejection. How is this possible???

*** US Embassy 2:** The officer is required to give an explanation and a letter is normally given to the applicant explaining why they were denied. If the applicant is unsure why they were denied, they may email consmanilaniv@state.gov to get a clarification if no explanation was given at the time of the interview.

68. Francis Acero: I ask these questions in behalf of my brother, who was denied a non-immigrant B1/B2 visa. 1. Is there any way to enter an appeal or ask that the consul reconsider his decision to deny a non-immigrant visa? 2. My brother was in college and was dependent on me for support. Now he's a self-supporting entrepreneur. What should he bring to support his claim that he has absolutely no intention of staying in the United States?

*** US Embassy 1:** There is no formal appeal process, however you can write to consmanilaniv@state.gov to request more information. In addition, applicants are free to apply again, especially if their circumstances have changed.

69. javiertor: where denied from the us embassy last feb 9, 2011 it is possible to try again?

*** US Embassy 2:** You can apply for a visa whenever you feel that you may qualify. However, if you were recently denied, it would be best to wait until your situation has changed and your ties outside of the United States have improved.

70. Moderator: What time should I be online for the chat ?

*** Moderator:** It would be better to logon before 4pm (Wednesday) so you could familiarize yourself with our chat environment before the web chat begins.

71. marz: is there's a need for an affidavit of support from my sister?

*** US Embassy 2:** In general, affidavits of support of any sort from relatives or sponsors will be of little value to an applicant (except to student visa applicants). The I-864 Affidavit of Support is a requirement only for immigrant visas. The interviewing officer is less concerned about how the applicant will be supported during his or her stay in the United States than whether the applicant has compelling reasons to return home. We encourage the interested third parties to save their time and money and not prepare affidavits of support.

72. marz: Good day. I'm a government employee here in Philippines, I wish to visit and see the beautiful America and spend time with my sisters. What are the necessary documents needed to support my tourist visa application?

*** US Embassy 1:** You can find information about how to apply for a visa, including what documents you need, on our website at <http://manila.usembassy.gov/www3024.html>. Applying for a U.S. visa is not primarily a document-based process. For most visa categories, your eligibility is determined by the strength of your ties to the Philippines.

73. christine walters: my daughter is 4 yrs. old and USA citizen her father who's American what to spend time w/ him and he ask me to bring her in Chicago and he will pay all the

expenses so my question is do i really need have this show money, or property to show the embassy for me to get a visa? or is there any type of visa i can get instead of tourist visa. thanks

*** US Embassy 1:** You can find information about how to apply for a visa, including what documents you need, on our website at <http://manila.usembassy.gov/www3024.html>. Applying for a U.S. visa is not primarily a document-based process, and "show money" is neither required nor necessarily helpful. For most visa categories, your eligibility is determined by the strength of your ties to the Philippines.

74. ethansfolks: Regarding CRBA, is it possible for our son and his US Citizen father to be present in the interview without me (the mom)? Were both currently in the US and our son is in the Philippines.

*** US Embassy 1:** This discussion is focused on non-immigrant visas. We will have a future webchat on American Citizen Services at a later date. Stay tuned. In the meantime, feel free to call the Embassy at 301-2000 and ask to be connected with the American Citizen Services section -- they should be able to answer your question.

75. mimi: Jay or i would like to ask if G5 visa holder can bring their family in the U.S? What are the requirements for this?

*** US Embassy 2:** It is possible for a G5 visa holder to bring dependents to the U.S. The dependents (spouse and children under age 21) will need to prove their relationship to the visa holder.

<END OF CHAT Feb 23, 2011 5:15pm>

<http://manila.usembassy.gov>
<http://www.facebook.com/manila.usembassy>
<http://www.twitter.com/usembassymanila>
<http://www.youtube.com/usembassymanila>
<http://www.flickr.com/people/usembassymanila>